

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. Claims 1-11 cancelled.
12. (currently amended) A fusible conductor for a fuse element, said fusible conductor comprising:
 - an electrically insulating core;
 - a fusible wire wound about the core a plurality of windings; and
 - an at-least-one-electrically insulated fibre wound about the core adjacent parallel to each of said plurality of the fusible wire windings such that the insulating fibre fusible wire is fixed in position so that a short circuit of adjacent each winding turns of the fusible wire is prevented.
13. Cancelled.
14. (currently amended) The fusible conductor of claim 12~~13~~, wherein both fusible wires and also the insulating fibre have an approximately circular cross section and the ratio of the diameter of the fusible wire to that of the insulating fibre is between 1/3 and 3.
15. (previously presented) The fusible conductor of claim 14, wherein the ratio of the diameter of the fusible wire to that of the insulating fibre is between 1 and 3.
16. (currently amended) The fusible conductor of claim 12~~13~~, wherein the fusible wire has an approximately circular cross section and wherein the insulating fibre is situated between adjacent turns of the fusible wire such that the spacing between the turns is 0.2 to 2 time the diameter of the fusible wire.

17. (previously presented) The fusible conductor of claim 16, wherein the spacing between turns is smaller than the diameter of the fusible wire
18. (previously presented) The fusible conductor of claim 16, wherein the outer surface of the wound fusible wire projects beyond the outer surface of the insulating fibre.
19. (previously presented) The fusible conductor of claim 14, wherein the core has a circular cross section and the cross sectional dimensions of the insulating fibre are smaller than the diameter of the core.
20. (previously presented) The fusible conductor of claim 1, wherein the insulating fibre consists of one or more glass fibres.
21. (previously presented) The fusible conductor of claim 1, wherein the insulating fibre consists of one or more ceramic fibres.
22. (previously presented) The fusible conductor of claim 1, wherein the core consists of one or more glass fibres.
23. (New) The fusible conductor of claim 12 wherein said insulating fibre has a substantially flat cross section disposed around said core.
24. (New) A fusible conductor for a fuse element comprising:
 - an electrically insulating core;
 - a fusible wire wound about said core a plurality of windings;
 - an insulating fibre adjacent to each of said plurality of fusible wire windings, said insulating fiber configured to have a relatively flat cross section disposed around said core.